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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Isao Hayafune  
Serial No.: 10/575,957  
Filing Date: April 14, 2006  
Title: Dome-shaped contact and  
multi-step operation electrical  
switch incorporating the same

June 15, 2006  
San Francisco, California

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant respectfully submits the following information disclosure statement.

The disclosed references are:

JP 2002-245895; Japanese Patent Office; published August 30, 2002, with its English abstract.

JP 2002-367477; Japanese Patent Office; published December 20, 2002, with its English abstract.

JP 05-190053; Japanese Patent Office; published July 30, 1993, with its English abstract.

JP 49-102245; Japanese Patent Office; published September 27, 1974, with corresponding GB Pat. App. Pub. No. 1430399.

JP 2003-123586; Japanese Patent Office; published April 25, 2003, with its English abstract.

JP 2-102629; Japanese Patent Office; published August 15, 1990, with its English translation.

JP-51-127384; Japanese Patent Office; published November 6, 1976, with corresponding GB Pat. App. Pub. No. 1 535 810.

JP-2001-135182; Japanese Patent Office; published May 18, 2001, with its English abstract.

JP-10-112240; Japanese Patent Office; published April 28, 1998, with its English abstract.

Two references mentioned above, GB Pat. App. Pub. No. 1430399 and GB Pat. App. Pub. No. 1 535 810, are also being submitted because they are believed to be counterparts to JP 49-102245 and GB Pat. App. Pub. No. 1 535 810, respectively, and may serve as a translations thereof.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner initial the cited references shown on the enclosed form PTO-1449 and that the references be made of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8**

I certify that this Information Disclosure Statement and all enclosed materials are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on June 15, 2006 with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



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David N. Lathrop

Enc. PTO Form 1449  
Cited references (9 + 2 counterparts)  
Return receipt postcard

| Substitute Form PTO-1449<br>IN 2006 APR<br>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT   |             | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  |                     | DOCKET<br>NAA240  | S.N.<br>10/575,957    |
|---|-------------|---|---------------------|---|-----------------------|
|   |             |   |                     | APPLICANT<br>Isao Hayafune                                |                       |
|   |             |   |                     | FILING DATE<br>April 14, 2006                             | GROUP                 |
| <b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>  |             |   |                     |   |                       |
| *Exam.<br>Initial   | Cite<br>No. | DOCUMENT NUMBER<br>Number - Kind Code   | PUBLICATION<br>DATE | NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT                             |                       |
|   |             | US-   |                     |   |                       |
| <b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>   |             |   |                     |   |                       |
| *Exam.<br>Initial   | Cite<br>No. | DOCUMENT NUMBER<br>Number - Kind Code   | PUBLICATION<br>DATE | NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT                             | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO |
|   |             | JP 2002-245895  | 08-30-02            | JAPAN, with its English abstract                          | X                     |
|   |             | JP 2002-367477  | 12-20-02            | JAPAN, with its English abstract                          | X                     |
|   |             | JP 05-190053  | 07-30-93            | JAPAN, with its English abstract                          | X                     |
|   |             | JP 49-102245  | 09-27-74            | JAPAN, with corresponding GB Pat. App. Pub. No. 1430399   | X                     |
|   |             | JP 2003-123586  | 04-25-03            | JAPAN, with its English abstract                          | X                     |
|   |             | JP 2-102629   | 08-15-90            | JAPAN, with its English translation                       | X                     |
|   |             | JP-51-127384  | 11-06-76            | JAPAN, with corresponding GB Pat. App. Pub. No. 1 535 810 | X                     |
|   |             | JP-2001-135182  | 05-18-01            | JAPAN, with its English abstract                          | X                     |
|   |             | JP-10-112240  | 04-28-98            | JAPAN, with its English abstract                          | X                     |
| <b>NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>  |             |   |                     |   |                       |
| *Exam.<br>Initial   | Cite<br>No. | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |                     |   | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO |
|   |             |   |                     |   |                       |
|   |             |   |                     |   |                       |
|   |             |   |                     |   |                       |
|   |             |   |                     |   |                       |
| EXAMINER  |             |   |                     | DATE CONSIDERED   |                       |
| EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant. |             |   |                     |   |                       |